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## **REMARKS**

Applicants respectfully request consideration of the application in view of the foregoing amendments.

The Specification has been amended to include a cross-reference to related applications PCT/EP03/14997, international filing date of December 29, 2003, which claims priority to U.S. Serial No. 60/437,846, filed January 3, 2003.

Applicants assert all claims are in condition for allowance and a favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would be of value, he is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

Alysia A. Finnegan Reg. No.: 48,878

Attorney for Applicants

MERCK & CO., INC.

P.O. Box 2000

Rahway, NJ 07065-0907

(732) 594-2583

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